

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 SS-07 ADP-00 SSO-00 /011 R

66643

DRAFTED BY: NEA/ INS: ARKAY: AM

APPROVED BY: NEA/ INS: DTSCHNEIDER

NEA/ EX: DTHAL: LRHUNT

S/ S/ EX: CRILEY

S/ S: GWARD

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 061277

LIMDIS

FOLLOWING SENT DACCA ISLAMABAD KABUL KATHMANDU NEW DELHI
CINCPAC WITH INFO TEHRAN AND HONGKONG FROM SECSTATE DATED
03 APR 73 REPEATED YOU:

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 061277

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON

SUBJ: DEPSEC VISIT SOUTH ASIA

REF : STATE 051636

JOINT STATE/ DOD MESSAGE

1. THIS MESSAGE IS TO PROVIDE POSTS WITH INFORMATION ON
ADMINISTRATIVE ASPECTS OF DEPUTY SECRETARY' S VISIT.

2. HOUSING:

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A. AS INDICATED IN REFTTEL THE RUSHES AND THE SISCOS WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY STAFF OF APPROXIMATELY 14, INCLUDING 3 SY AND THE USUAL S/S SUPPORT. FROM THE STANDPOINT OF SECURITY AND COMFORT WE HOPE THE RUSHES AND THE SISCOS CAN BE HOUSED IN OFFICIAL RESIDENCE. WHERE POSSIBLE WE HOPE THAT ONE OF THE SY OFFICERS CAN STAY AT THE RESIDENCE WHERE THE DEPUTY SECRETARY IS HOUSED THOUGH WE RECOGNIZE THIS MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE AT ALL STOPS. YOU WILL WANT TO BLOCK OUT 14 SINGLES AT AN APPROPRIATE HOTEL FOR THE OTHERS. BE AS DISCREET AS POSSIBLE IN MAKING THESE ARRANGEMENTS.

B. WE WILL PROVIDE NAMES OF PARTY MEMBERS BY SEPARATE MESSAGE. POSTS SHOULD OBTAIN ROOM NUMBERS, ASSIGN PARTY TO ROOMS AND CABLE THIS INFORMATION TO THE DEPT PRIOR TO APRIL 9.

C. PARTY SHOULD BE PRE- REGISTERED AND ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR KEYS TO BE READILY AVAILABLE TO THE INDIVIDUAL TRAVELER UPON ARRIVAL.

D. AAMPLES AS CERTIFIED BY USDA, THEN INITIAL BDG JUDGMENT THAT THIS COTTON SUITABLE FOR BD MILLS INCORRECT AND PURCHASE ADDITIONAL QUANTITIES UNWISE. TCB HAS HIRED GENERAL SUPERINTENDENCE CORP TO SAMPLE AND TEST GRANT NO. 1 COTTON. CONSENSUS BDG REPS AT MEETING WAS TO WAIT FOR REPORT BEFORE DECIDING WHETHER TO PROCURE ADDITIONAL COTTON UNDER FY 1973 GRANT.

3. LIMITED REPORTS FROM FIELD CONFIRM BTIC/ TCB CONTENTION MILLS HAVING SEVERE PROBLEMS USING GRANT NO. 1 COTTON. SOME MILLS HAVE REFUSED TO ACCEPT FULL CONSIGNMENT; 60,000 TO 70,000 BALES NOT BEING USED AT ALL. THE FEW MILLS ATTEMPTING USE ARE BLENDING WITH SYNTHETICS OR BETTER GRADES COTTON OBTAINED FROM OTHER SOURCES AND EVEN SO ARE NOT GETTING REASONABLE QUALITY YARNS (SPINABLE COUNTS ARE LESS THAN 30). REGARDLESS OF CAUSE OF PROBLEM, IT CLEAR BDG NEED SUFFICIENT QUANTITY BETTER GRADES COTTON IN ORDER UTILIZE GRANT NO. 1 COTTON. ALSO IF SOURCE OF PROBLEM IS UNSUITABILITY COTTON IN QUALITY RANGES WE CAN FINANCE, BDG COULD CONCEIVABLY TAKE SOME QUNATITY UNDER FY 1973 GRANT IF RPT IF IT CAN OBTAIN BETTER GRADES FOR BLENDING.

4. WHILE WE HAVE TAKEN FIRM LINE ON QULAITY WE CAN FINANCE IN TALKS CORRESPONDENCE WITH BB, IN LIGHT OF ABOVE WE MUST STRONGLY URGE AID/ W AND USDA REVIEW SITUATION ONCE AGAIN TO DETERMINE WHETHER ANY LEEWAY EXISTS IN RANGE OF QUALITY ELIGIBLE FOR FINANCING UNDER GRANT. WE FULLY EXPECT RENEWED APPEAL FROM PLANNING COMMISSION FOR EASING OF QUALITY RESTRICTIONS AND BELIEVE SUCH EASING WOULD BE IN BEST INTEREST OF ALL. REGARDLESS CAUSES, GRANT NO. 1 COTTON HAS AROUSED CONSIDERABLE BITTERNESS AND ILL WILL AMONGST TCB, BTIC, AND BD MILL PERSONNEL WHICH NO DOUBT WILL BE REFLECTED IN ATTITUDES TOWARD US COTTON IN FUTURE PROCUREMENTS. ADDITIONALLY, INABILITY BDG PROCURE US COTTON UNDER GRANT WILL NECESSITATE PROCUREMENT WITH OTHER FUNDS WHICH COULD CREATE

PROBLEM IN CONTEXT BD'S OVERALL FOREIGN EXCHANGE POSITION.

5. IN THIS CONTEXT, URGENT NEED FOR MILLING EXPERT OFFICER. BDG

PRESSING US FOR ETA EXPERT, AND OUR INABILITY PROVIDE NEW INFO
BECOMING EMBARRASSING. ADVISE STATUS.
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6. RE PIMA CITATION USCOR MISUNDERSTOOD BASIS FOR BTIC
REQUEST. PIMA APPARENTLY REQUIRED FOR BLENDING WITH COTTON
OBTAINED FROM OTHER SOURCES AND NOT RPT NOT WITH U. S. COTTON.
DO NOT RPT NOT EXPECT PLANNING COMMISSION TO SUPPORT
REQUEST FOR FINANCING UNDER GRANT IN LIGHT JOINT SECRETARY'S
VIEW THAT PIMA HIGH COST ITEM NOT SUITABLE FOR FINANCING UNDER
GRANT.
NEWBERRY

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** LIMDIS
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE061277
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NEA/ INS: ARKAY: AM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730434/aaaahrag.tel
Line Count: 142
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN NE
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 73 STATE 051636
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 26 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26-Dec-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <22 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971201
Subject: DEPSEC VISIT SOUTH ASIA
TAGS: OCON, CE, OCON
To: COLOMBO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005